

patent application is submitted herewith. Because the present claims are fully supported by the priority document and the filing date of the priority document preceeds the filing date of Kurebayashi, Kurebayashi is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102.

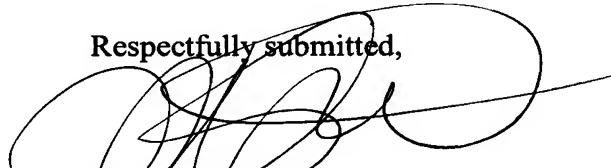
Nishiuchi is only relied upon as teaching the recited adjustment of pulse width and varying the leading or tail pulse.

Accordingly, claims 1, 2 and 5-26 are patentable over Kurebayashi and/or Nishiuchi. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 2 and 5-26 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:KXH/tls

Attachment:

Translation of Japanese Application No. 2002-364493

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